LOCAL & STATE

Coronavirus may wreck economy

Maxwell: Area always feels economic swings because of reliance on spending of others. **B1**

SPORTS

Bucs expected to sign Brady

After 20 years in New England, the future Hall-of-Fame quarterback is headed to Tampa Bay. **C1**

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Trump proposes stimulus

President calls for $850B package for affected industries

By Jonathan Lemire and Kevin Freking
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Ahead of an expected surge in coronavirus cases, President Donald Trump on Tuesday moved to blunt the impact of the pandemic on the U.S. economy, fundamentally altered by a push for a nation to stay home.

As the global markets fluctuated amid fears of a recession, the president conferred with tourism executives as well as restaurant leaders, retailers and suppliers. His administration is expected to propose a roughly $850 billion emergency economic stimulus to address the free-fall while considering checks to American workers trying to make their way in an economy deeply unsettled by the outbreak.

The death toll in the U.S. from the new coronavirus passed the 100 mark on Tuesday after Washington state reported six new fatalities, bringing the country's total to 103.

U.S. businesses large and small are reeling from shutdowns, cancellations and public fear about the virus as the number of cases rises nationwide. Stocks moved higher on Wall Street on Tuesday, a day after plunging to their worst loss in more than three decades.

And the president again urged Americans to follow sweeping guidelines that for the next 14 days will temporarily rewrite the norms of society, including for older residents to stay home while all people should avoid gatherings of more than 10 and their local restaurants and bars.

"By making shared sacrifices, we can protect the health of our people and our economy, and I think our economy will come back very rapidly," Trump said. "If we do this right, our country and the world frankly, but our country can be rolling again very quickly. We can protect the health of our people and we can protect our economy."

Trump, maintaining his newly somber tone about the crisis enveloping the globe, urged Americans to work from home and urged the nation's cities and states to issue restrictions to promote distancing in line with new federal guidelines. He promised a dramatic increase in access to coronavirus tests, ventilators, hospital beds and access to telehealth services.

His administration said it

*Please turn to **TRUMP, A12***

Orange tests 38 for virus thus far

Expert calls sum 'embarrassing'

By Naseem S. Miller

Orange County, the fifth-most populous county in Florida with 1.3 million residents, has performed only 38 COVID-19 tests on people deemed at risk of infection, according to the latest information released by the state health officials on Tuesday night.

The test numbers in other Central Florida counties aren't much higher. Osceola and Seminole counties have performed 58 and 36 tests respectively. Volusia has had 39 tests and Lake has had 10.

The numbers are "embarrassing," said Dr. Aileen Marty, an internationally renowned expert on tropical and infectious diseases at Florida International University. "It does not reflect well on our level of preparedness."

Marty, who has 40 years of experience in public health, said the testing shortage stems from the chronic underfunding of the nation's public health infrastructure and the failure to maintain a "marvelous national stockpile" that was established after 9/11.

Rep. Anna Eskamani, D-Orlando, found the numbers surprising and said more testing needs to be done.

"It's about saving lives and it's about having as much data as possible so we can get back to a place of good public health and a place where our economy

*Please turn to **TESTS, A8***

JASON BEEDE/ORLANDO SENTINEL

Wall Street Plaza in downtown Orlando was nearly empty during its St. Patrick's Day party on Tuesday.

DeSantis shuts down bars, extends school closures

Online-only operations to continue through colleges' spring semesters

By Gray Rohrer and Mark Skoneki

TALLAHASSEE — Gov. Ron DeSantis shut down all bars and nightclubs for 30 days Tuesday and extended the closure of all K-12 schools to April 15, as part of his efforts to stop the spread of the coronavirus pandemic.

For universities and state colleges, online-only operations will extend through the rest of the spring semester.

DeSantis stressed that only elderly individuals with symptoms or people with underlying medical conditions who are showing signs of the coronavirus — fever, cough, shortness of breath — can be tested, but added he is ramping up testing around the state to thwart the spread.

"Just think how it's escalated and how concerned a lot of people are," DeSantis said. "We want to be able to help folks."

Other parts of DeSantis' orders canceled all state-mandated testing in K-12 schools and all graduation and promotion requirements will be evaluated as if the tests didn't exist. Parents will have the option to hold their children in the same grade next school year. State grades for schools won't be issued this year.

And while K-12 schools will remain closed until April 15, online and remote learning will continue.

In addition, DeSantis announced one Broward County resident of an assisted living facility, a 77-year-old man with underlying medical conditions, has died of the disease. An investigation by Department of Health officials is underway, he added, and all other residents of the facility have been isolated and being evaluated.

There were 24 additional positive cases Tuesday, DeSantis said, bringing the total in the state to 216, including 195 Florida residents and 21 cases in non-Florida

*Please turn to **BARS, A8***

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE INSIDE

Schools: Graduation ceremonies for universities are canceled, all campuses switch to online learning. **A9**

■ Florida plans to keep students off public school campuses through April 15 and standardized testing was canceled, by order of Gov. DeSantis. **A9**

Domestic violence: Advocates say coronavirus isolation could lead to a spike in violence, so shelters are increasing resources. **A9**

Ghost town: Local media take to the skies to document the surreal scene of empty theme parks. **A10**

First responders: Dispatchers are screening 911 callers, and first responders are keeping protective gear ready to prevent infection. **A10**

Area roundup: State adds three field hospitals, including 1 in Orlando; hospitals delay patients' elective surgeries; malls adjust. **A10**

Unfounded bias: Due to unfounded fears, Chinese restaurants may have been hit harder than anywhere else. **A11**

Whitley: Coronavirus causing Big Gulps of anxiety for convenience store clerks. **A11**

Food: Restaurants are upping their delivery and takeout service, and Uber Eats waives fees for customers who order from independent restaurants. **A11**

Markets: Stocks rebound on news of Trump's proposal of $1 trillion virus aid package. **C4**

Sports: French Open, Kentucky Derby, PGA Championship all get postponed thanks to threat of new coronavirus. **C3**

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ELECTION 2020 FLORIDA PRIMARY

Biden pummels Sanders for win

Former VP opens up huge delegate lead

By Steven Lemongello and Caroline Glenn

Joe Biden won a commanding victory over Bernie Sanders in Tuesday's Florida Democratic presidential primary, one of his biggest so far in a string of wins for the former vice president over the past few weeks.

In a primary that will be remembered for taking place in the midst of the coronavirus outbreak, Biden led Sanders 62% to 23% with about 97% of the statewide vote reported. President Trump, meanwhile, easily defeated three minor candidates in the Republican primary.

Local: Election results. **B1**

National: Biden rolls to wins in Illinois, Arizona. **A6**
Election results by the numbers on **A6, B2**

An early tally by NBC News had Biden picking up 133 delegates in Florida to Sanders' 22, according to NBC, opening up a huge delegate lead for the former vice president on Tuesday even before Illinois and Arizona were called. Biden was also projected to win Illinois shortly before 9:30 p.m.

Speaking from his hometown of Wilmington, Delaware, instead of before a crowd because of coronavirus concerns, Biden attempted to reach out to his last remaining opponent.

"Sen. Sanders and I may disagree on tactics but we share a common vision," Biden said. "I hear you. I know what's at stake. I know what we have to do."

The total voter turnout of about 26% in Orange County was down from 42% in 2016, when there were two competitive primaries. Less than 10% of all registered voters came out on Election Day compared with the 17% of regis-

*Please turn to **PRIMARY, A6***

JOE BURBANK/ORLANDO SENTINEL

Voters cast their ballots during the Florida primary election Tuesday at the Orange County Supervisor of Elections office in Orlando.

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